

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 533

By Durham

A RESOLUTION to recognize Walter Joseph Davis on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers in public service; and

WHEREAS, Walter Joseph (Joey) Davis is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for nearly twenty years as Williamson County Trustee; and

WHEREAS, Joey Davis is a native of Franklin, Tennessee, born to the late Jimmy and Leona Davis on August 22, 1940, and is the loving brother of Betsy (Mark) Deshano, and the late Richard Davis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis graduated from Franklin High School in 1958 and joined the United States Navy in July of the same year; during his naval career, he spent time in San Diego, Okinawa, and the Philippine Islands, serving on the USS Ranger and the USS Oriskany; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis became a First Class Petty Officer as a Communications Technician and studied Russian for one year at the U.S. Army Language School in Monterey, California; following his language studies, he was stationed in Morocco for three years, including the occurrence of the Cuban Missile Crisis; and

WHEREAS, after returning to Monterey, California, Mr. Davis returned to the U.S. Army Language School to study Turkish for one year, after which time he was transferred to the National Security Agency in Maryland; and

WHEREAS, after serving over ten years in the United States Navy, Joey Davis was honorably discharged in December of 1968 with a medical discharge, due to a knee injury; and

WHEREAS, following his discharge, Mr. Davis returned to Franklin, Tennessee and began working for the United States Postal Service where he rose through the ranks and was promoted to the staff of the Tennessee District, reporting to the Director of Marketing, until his retirement in 1992; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement, Joey and his family owned and operated a restaurant, Toby's Chicken Kitchen, from 1993 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Mr. Davis was elected as the Williamson County Trustee, the position from which he will soon retire after twenty years of dedicated service; and

WHEREAS, Joey Davis contributes his time and numerous talents to civic organizations, including the Franklin Day Care Center Board, Board of Directors of the Child Advocacy Center, Williamson County Franklin Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Williamson County, Williamson County Board of Zoning Appeals, Williamson County Regional Planning Commission, Williamson County Crime Stoppers Board of Directors, and County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT) Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has served in several civic leadership roles, including president of Franklin Optimist Club, president of Franklin Lions Club, president of My Friends House, secretary of National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers and Finance Officers (NACCTFO), and has participated in Graduate Leadership Franklin; and

WHEREAS, Joey Davis is the recipient of many professional awards, including Middle Tennessee Trustee of the Year, Tennessee County Trustees' Association Trustee of the Year, and County Officials' Association of Tennessee Outstanding County Official of the Year 2010; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated professional, Mr. Davis has earned numerous certifications, including University of Missouri Saint Louis Chancellor's Certificate of Public Administration, Finance Executive, and Finance Master, and University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service Certified Public Administrator; and

WHEREAS, as an active and fervent member of the Lions Club, Mr. Davis has received numerous awards from the group, including Lion of the Year, Lion's Club Citizen of the Year, and Melvin Jones Fellow, which is the highest Lions Club Award; and

WHEREAS, a deeply spiritual individual, Mr. Davis and his wife are devoted members of the West Main Church of Christ, where he also serves as the treasurer; and

WHEREAS, devoted to his family, Joey Davis enjoys the loving support of his beloved wife, Lena, whom he met while stationed with the Navy in Monterey, California; the couple has three sons, Jimmy (Phoebe Pewitt) Davis, Richard (Julie Newman) Davis, and Todd (Vivian Burkett) Davis, and four grandchildren: Cody, Calvin, Joshua, and Sarah; and

WHEREAS, Joey Davis exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, he demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and a grateful public, and it is appropriate that this body should recognize his outstanding service to the good citizens of Williamson County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Walter Joseph "Joey" Davis our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.